

HISTORIC PRESERVATION NEWS AND NOTES from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
S.C. Department of Archives and History
March 25, 2010

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Thank You Congressmen Brown and Spratt

Representatives Henry Brown (1st District) and John Spratt (5th District) recently signed a "Dear Colleague" letter circulated in the House of Representatives that asked Congressmen to support adequate funding for core Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) programs in fiscal year 2011. The HPF is the source of funding that allows the SC Department of Archives and History to carry out mandated functions of the National Historic Preservation Act through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and also funds the Save America's Treasures and Preserve America grant programs.

The letter requested \$55 million for the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs), \$12 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, \$25 million for Save America's Treasures grants, and \$4.6 million for Preserve America. There were 101 co-signers of the letter. We appreciate the support of Congressmen Spratt and Brown and their staffs.

Preservation Tax Related Legislation in Congress

Two bills have been introduced in Congress that would affect historic preservation tax incentives at the federal level.

H.R. 3715 "The Community Restoration and Revitalization Act" would make improvements to the existing federal income tax credit for income-producing historic buildings by increasing its economic benefit and encouraging energy efficiency.

HR. 3760 "Historic Homeowners Revitalization Act" would create a new federal income tax credit for historic homes, similar to the existing one for income-producing properties.

More information about what's happening at the federal level is on Preservation Action's website <http://www.preservationaction.org/>.

2010 Historic Preservation Awards

The statewide historic preservation awards recognize exemplary preservation projects and commitment to historic preservation. It is a joint program of the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, the Office of the Governor and the S.C. Department of Archives and History. The following awards were given on March 3, 2010:

- Winnie Davis School of History, Limestone College/*Honor Awards to Limestone College, Campbell Meek & Associates Architects, Inc., and McDaniel Construction, Inc.*
- Ware Shoals Inn (Greenwood County)/*Honor Awards to Vision Ware Shoals, LLC, Perkins Eastman, and James B. Jones Construction Company, Inc.*
- Federal Building, Greenwood/ *Honor Awards to the Self Family Foundation and City of Greenwood*
- Westminster Train Depot Restoration (Oconee County)/*Honor Awards to City of Westminster, DP3 Architects, Ltd., and Trehel Corporation*
- Hightower Hall Restoration at Historic Brattonsville/*Honor Awards to York County Cultural and Heritage Museums, Huss Construction, and DP3 Architects*
- "From Slavery to Freedom: The Magnolia Cabin Project"/*Heritage Tourism Award to Magnolia Plantation and Gardens*
- Martin Meek, AIA of Spartanburg/ *Governor's Award for Lifetime Achievement*

State Board of Review to Meet March 26

The South Carolina State Board of Review for the National Register of Historic Places will meet this Friday, March 26 at 10:30 a.m. at the Archives and History Center, 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia. The Board will consider the following nominations to the National Register:

- Ashley River Historic District (Additional Information and Boundary Increase), Charleston and Dorchester counties
- James M. Davis House, Greer, Spartanburg County
- Union Church, Port Royal, Beaufort County
- Robert Quillen Office/Library, Fountain Inn, Greenville County

The public is welcome to attend the meeting. For more information, contact Andy Chandler at chandler@scdah.state.sc.us or 803-896-6179.

Landmark and Preservation Conference Presentations Online

Several of the PowerPoint presentations given at the Landmark and Preservation Conference in Georgetown have been posted on our website at <http://shpo.sc.gov/conf/landpconference/2010LPconfpresentations.htm>.

International Heritage Development Conference Coming to Charleston

The South Carolina National Heritage Corridor is hosting the International Heritage Development Conference "Advancing Beyond Borders" June 27 to July 1, 2010 in Charleston. It features:

- a diversity forum (June 27)
- pre-conference tours on Gullah Geechee Culture & Traditions and the Carolina Barbados Connection (June 28)
- educational sessions focusing on heritage areas and heritage tourism including interpretation, marketing, social media, funding, building partnerships, and non-profit how-tos (June 29 & July 1), and
- day-long tours highlighting the interpretation of sensitive stories, southern foodways, natural areas and wildlife, and military heritage (June 30).

The full agenda with descriptions of events and registration information (early registration ends May 21) is at http://www.sc-heritagecorridor.org/ihdc_2010/.

ArchSite Update -- Grants and Funding

ArchSite is a geographic information system (GIS) that is available on the Internet that includes information about the state's cultural resources. It is jointly maintained by the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and the SHPO. The organizations have been seeking grant funding to digitize the geographic and attribute data of the more than 30,000 archaeological sites in the state. A National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant application submitted last summer that would have digitized all the site forms was not funded. Detailed comments from the reviewers are forthcoming and will be used to revise the grant for resubmission. In addition to seeking long term grants, such as the NEH three year grant, the ArchSite Steering Committee is also pursuing smaller, short term grants to support data digitization and enhancements to the ArchSite application. Currently, SCIAA is providing funds for a student assistant for three months to work on digitizing geographic and attribute data for the archaeological sites data layer. Additional funds are being sought to continue the position through the end of

summer. Additional information on ArchSite is available at <http://archsite.cas.sc.edu/ArchSite/>.

Economic Impact of the Federal Tax Credit Program

In early March, a new report by Rutgers University was issued that analyzes the economic impact of the federal historic tax credit program since it started in 1976. Key findings were:

- The tax credit has generated \$85 billion in rehabilitation spending.
- Approximately 75% of the federal historic tax credit's economic effects are retained in the localities and states where the projects take place.
- In inflation-adjusted (2008) dollars, \$16.6 billion in Federal Historic Tax Credit expenditures by the Treasury to date have encouraged a five times greater amount of historic rehabilitation (\$85 billion).
- The federal historic tax credit has created 1.8 million jobs since the program began. These jobs are concentrated in the construction, manufacturing, service and retail sectors.
- Jobs generated by historic rehabilitation require higher skill levels and pay better wages than those generated by new construction.
- The credit has generated jobs more efficiently than other stimulus options and, in fact, the study demonstrates that the economic activity leveraged by credit returns more tax revenue to the U.S. Treasury than the cost of implementing the program.

A pdf of the report is online at: <http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/community-revitalization/jobs/Rutgers-Report.pdf>.

Applications Sought For Diversity Scholarship Program

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is accepting applications for its Diversity Scholarship Program to attend the National Preservation Conference scheduled for Austin, TX October 27-30, 2010. The program will provide financial assistance to approximately 60 community leaders from diverse backgrounds to attend the conference. For program and application information, please visit <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc/diversity-scholarship-program/> or email scholarship@nthp.org. Applications must be submitted electronically by Tuesday, June 1.

Community-Centered Schools Report

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Center for State and Local Policy has issued a new report "Helping Johnny Walk to School". Despite a growing awareness of their many benefits, community-centered older and historic schools are still lost to abandonment and demolition. This new report <http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/historic-schools/> offers policy suggestions for encouraging the preservation of community-centered schools.

Endangered Roadside Places List Released

The Society for Commercial Archeology, an organization devoted to resources related to the 20th-century commercial landscape, has released a list of ten endangered roadside places. The places on the "Falling by the Wayside" list are all marked by threats which can include natural weathering, economic hardship, neglect, abandonment, inappropriate zoning, lack of maintenance and demolition. For more information visit www.sca-roadside.org/endangered/.

Conferences/Workshops/Events

Secretary of the Interior's Standards: Treatment Considerations, April 14-15, 2010 in Columbia, SC. This National Preservation Institute workshop explores the Standards for Rehabilitation, focusing on the preservation of historic fabric, sustainability, green rehabilitation, and the use of renewable materials. AIA continuing education credit is available. For more information and to register go to <http://www.npi.org/sem-stand.html> or call 703-765-0100.

Masters of the Buildings Arts Festival, April 15-17, 2010 in Charleston. See nationally acclaimed master artisans in the building trades at work, and participate in outdoor workshops and tours. For more information go to <http://www.buildingartscollege.us/About/events.html>.

National Main Street Conference, May 2-5, 2010 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. For more information go to <http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/>.

Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Meeting, May 19-22, 2010 in Washington, DC. For more information go to <http://www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org/conferences/2010/index.html>.

Section 106: An Introduction, June 8-10, 2010 in Atlanta, GA. Offered by the National Preservation Institute, for more information go to www.npi.org.

National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Forum, July 28-August 1, 2010 in Grand Rapids, MI. For more information go to www.uga.edu/napc/programs/napc/forum.htm.

Grant Application Deadlines

NEW April 30, 2010 Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation Preservation Fund: The Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation is partnering with the National Trust for Historic Preservation for a new pilot grant program in 2010 that focuses on **historic school buildings** that are being stabilized or restored, and when completed will be open to the public and serve the community. The grants will provide funding for construction expenses (for example roof repair window restoration, fire prevention, and building stabilization), with up to 20% available for professional service fees. Work should conform to the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The maximum grant award is \$50,000. Eligible applicants are 501 (c)(3) nonprofits, school boards/districts, and government agencies. Grant applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2010. To read the complete guidelines and eligibility requirements, and to download an application form, visit the National Trust's web site at <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/nonprofit-public-funding.html> and scroll down to the section titled "Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation Preservation Fund."

NEW May 5, 2010 NEH Challenge Grants: These matching grants are intended to help organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for their humanities programs and resources. Grants may be used to establish or enhance endowments or spend-down funds (that is, funds that are invested, with both the income and the principal being expended over a defined period of years) to support ongoing program activities. Funds may also be used for one-time capital expenditures (such as construction and renovation, purchase of equipment, and acquisitions) that bring long-term benefits to the institution and to the humanities more broadly. Applications are welcome from colleges and universities, museums, public libraries, research institutions, historical societies and historic sites, scholarly associations, state humanities councils, and other nonprofit entities. Activities supported Challenge grant funds (both federal and nonfederal together) must provide long-term benefits to the humanities. For more information see this website <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/challenge.html>

NEW May 21, 2010 Save America's Treasures Grants: Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture, and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. Grants are awarded to Federal, state, local, and tribal government entities, and non-profit organizations through a competitive matching-grant program. For more information and to apply visit www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/index.htm.

June 1, 2010 Preservation Services Fund Grants: Administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, these grants are awarded to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for preservation planning and education efforts. Grant awards range from \$500 to \$5,000. For more information, contact the Southern Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation at 843-722-8552 or soro@nthp.org and the National Trust website at <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/>.

Information about other grants is available on the Archives and History website at <http://shpo.sc.gov/grants/otherincentives/>.

NOTE: If for some reason a link is not working, copy the entire URL and paste it into the address bar of your web browser.

NOTE: Old issues of *Preservation News and Notes* going back to January 2009 are available at <http://www.shpo.sc.gov/newsnotes/default.htm>.

Please send your comments and suggestions about *Preservation News and Notes* to Elizabeth Johnson via email emjohnson@scdah.state.sc.us.

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